

An Account of His Most Excellent Majesty's Splendid Reception into the Famous City of London; together with His Royal En- tertainment in and through the said City, on Tuesday the 16th of this Instant November, 1697.

Whitehall, November 16.

HIS Majesty having been pleased graciously to accept of the Humble Request made to him by the City of London, to honour them by passing through the same publicly in his Return from *Flanders*, upon the Conclusion of the Peace with *France*; and the City having adjusted every thing on their Part in the most Splendid and Honourable manner for His Majesty's Royal Reception, His Majesty did this Day about Noon set forth in his Coach from *Greenwich* accompanied by his Royal Highness *Pr. George*, and attended by the Great Officers of State, and a numerous Concourse of the Lords Spiritual and Temporal, the Privy-Council, Judges, and divers other Persons of Quality of the Three Kingdoms, all in Coaches with 6 Horses; And being come to *St. Margaret-Hill* in *Southwark*, was there received by the Lord Mayor and Aldermen in their Formalities on Horseback: And his Lordship alighting, and presenting to the King the City Sword, and receiving it back again with His Majesty's Directions to carry it before him, and the Recorder also alighting, and in a short Speech Congratulating his Majesty's happy Arrival, the Proceeding from thence to *Whitehall* was in manner following.

First, a Detachment of about 100 of the City Trained-Bands, all in Buff Coats, led the way from the Bridge to *Charing-Cross*, then followed two of the King's Coaches, and one of *Prince George's*; the two City-Marshals, with their Men; the Sheriffs Officers with Javelin's, preceded by two of the City Trumpets; next the Lord Mayor's Officers in Black Gowns; the City Banner born by the Water-Bayliff, preceded by two more of the City Trumpets; next the City Officers on Horseback in their proper Gowns, each attended by a Servant in Livery; then the King's Banner Born by the Common-Hunt, preceded by three of the City Trumpets; the common Crier, and Sword-bearer, the last in his Gown of Black Damask and Gold Chain, each with a Servant; Then the Aldermen, Recorder and Sheriffs, and such as had served or fined for Sheriff or Alderman, the Juniors first, all on Horseback in Scarlet Gowns, each Alderman below the Chair attended by his Beadle and two Footmen, and those above the Chair, with four Footmen each; the Messengers of the Chamber and Knight Mareschal's Men attending the Proceeding in their proper Station,

Then the King's Trumpets and Kettle-Drums, followed by the Sergeant-Trumpet with his Mace; the Herald of Arms according to their several Classes

between the Sergeants at Arms with their Maces, all bare-headed, and each attended by a Servant; Then the Lord-Mayor of London on Horse-back in a Crimson-Velvet-Gown, with his Collar and Jewel, bearing the City Sword, in the middle between *Clarenceux* King of Arms on the Right hand, supplying the place of *Garter* King of Arms, and one of the Gentlemen-Ushers on the Left Hand, supplying the place of the Usher of the Black-Rod; the Lord Mayor attended by four Servants, and each of the other by 2 Servants.

Then the King in a rich Coach of State, accompanied by *Prince George*, with the Gentleman of the Bedchamber in waiting, and attended on each side by His Majesty's Equeries, Footmen, and the Yeomen of the Guard, led by their Officers, and followed by His Majesty's Life-Guards, and a long Train of Coaches with six Horses of the Great Officers, Nobility and others, according to their respective Degrees, Ranks and Qualities, in the same Order as they came from *Greenwich*.

The Street were lined and guarded in *Southwark* by the Militia of *Surrey*, assisted by the Militia of the *Tower* Hamlets; from the Bridge to *Walbrook* by 3 Regiments of the City Militia; From thence to *St. Paul's* Church-yard by the Liveries of the several Companies with their Banners and Ensigns displayed; and from thence to *Temple-Bar* by the other 3 Regiments of the City; and thence to *Whitehall* by the Militia of *Middlesex*, and His Majesty's own Guards; the City Conduits running with Wine all the while.

Thus the Proceeding moved to *Whitehall* Gate, only the Lord Mayor, accompanied as before by *Garter* and the Usher of the Black Rod, attended his Majesty to the Foot of the Stairs in *Whitehall* leading up to the Guard Chamber, where humbly taking leave of His Majesty, his Lordship and the Aldermen were conducted into the Lodgings, and Treated with a Noble Supper by my Lord Steward.

The Balconies and Windows were adorned with rich Hangings and Tapestries, and crouded with infinite Numbers of Spectators and all the Streets as His Majesty passed rang with loud Acclamations of Joy.

At the East end of *St. Paul's* were placed the Hospital Boys, one of which made a congratulatory Oration to His Majesty.

The whole Ceremony was performed with great Order: The Cannon at the Tower were discharged at His Majesties taking Coach, and at His passing over the Bridge; His Majesties Foot-Guards gave 3 Volleys in *St. James's-Park*; and the Evening concluded with Bonfires, Illuminations, Ringing of Bells, and all other Demonstrations of Dutiful Affection to His Majesty's Sacred Person and Government.